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## BRANDON W. PHELPS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

1 18TH DISTRICT

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Thank you for this opportunity to express to you my support for the proposed Comcast and Time Warner Cable transaction and all that such a business collaboration would bring to the State of Illinois, and beyond. As a fifth-term legislator in Illinois, having served as a Representative for the 118th District since January 2003, my request for your approval of this transaction stems from direct knowledge of the implications for our state's businesses and for Illinois families.

While my district currently does not enjoy Comcast video or broadband service, as Chairman of the Illinois Public Utilities Committee, I know well the positive impact Comcast's industry-leading services have had on Illinois businesses and consumers.

Comcast has been a proven investor in Illinois communities for nearly two decades. I understand that in 2013 alone, Comcast spent over \$1.3 billion in our state on capital expenditures, taxes and fees, employee investment, and community investment. The company operates dozens of facilities in Illinois. It employs close to 7,000 of our residents with a demonstrated commitment to employ our nation's military veterans. The additional economic opportunities a combined Comcast and Time Warner Cable could generate are exciting to think about.

The transaction would also extend Comcast's ongoing commitment to a free and open Internet. I have long promoted the kind of technology innovation, job creation and business growth that an open Internet cultivates. The proposed transaction would push an open Internet to millions more cable customers.

I am also excited that this transaction could deliver Comcast's broadband speed increases and new technologies like next generation TV, live TV streaming, and neighborhood hotspots for Xfinity WIFI to the communities throughout the state.

We see the partnerships that Comcast has formed in Illinois, whether through business, education, or the many volunteer activities carried out in our communities. We want those partnerships to be bolstered by a stronger Comcast, and for more Illinois residents to benefit from the advanced, quality services that the company has proven it can deliver. For these reasons, I sincerely ask that the Commission approve this merger.

Sincerely,

andon W. Phelps

State Representative 118<sup>th</sup> District